I. *An Account of a* Polypus *taken out of the* Vnena Pulmoalis, *and of the structure of that Vessel. By* Will. Cowper, *F.R.S.*

I Send you herewith the account and Figure of a *Polypus*, which I took out of a Child of about a year old. Its first observable disorders were a quick Pulse, and a difficulty of breathing. In about four days the Gums were observ'd to be swell'd, for which they were cut, and all symptoms disappear'd for five or six hours, after which they return'd. Notwithstanding Blood-letting, and the application of other Remedies, the Difficulty of Breathing encreas'd, the Pulse became still lower and quicker, and in four days more the Child dyed.

The Body was open'd, and the *Viscera* of the lower Belly were found well constituted.

In the *Thorax* the *Thymus* exceeded the natural size even in Children. The fore part of the Lungs appear'd to be well dispos'd, but the back parts were very hard, and much inflam'd. Making Incision on the diseas'd part, Purulent matter followed the Knife in such quantity from divers Cells, that it fill'd the wounds as fast as made, and pieces cut from it sunk in water. But as we approached nearer to the parts unaffected, the pieces became gradually more buoyant, till at length we came to the fore part, which floated.

The Cavities of the right Auricle and Ventricle of the Heart were fill'd with a *Polypus*, which was continued into the superiour and inferiour Trunk of the *Vena Cava*.

Opening the *Vena Pulmonaris* at the *Basis* of the Heart, I found it there compleatly fill'd with a *Polypus* (or coagulation of Blood) which was continued into all the large branches of it in the Lungs, and were easily drawn out, and when displa[illegible]d, appear'd as expres's'd Fig. III.

This *Polypus* affords us a better Idea of the contrivance and structure of the Pulmonary Vein than any Figures of that Vessel yet publisht: For tho in different subjects of the same species we meet with frequent varieties in the distribution of the Blood-vessels, especially of the Veins; we no where find a more constant Regularity and Uni-

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formity than in the trunks and large branches of the Pulmonary Vein; of which I have added two Figures (*vid.* Fig. I. and II.) drawn after a Preparation of that Vein injected with Wax, and freed from the Lungs of an Adult Humane body. The Original Preparation is to be ſeen among the Anatomical Collections of the Accurate Dr. *Tyſon.*

Among many very conſiderable parts of the Humane Body, not ill expreſt in the Tables publiſhed by *Bidloo*, and overlookt, or not known by him, this Trunk of the Pulmonary Vein is one; unleſs he may be allow'd to call it the Left Ventricle of the Heart, as he has done Tab. 22. Fig. 7. A. which miſtake and omiſſion, tho very groſs, I corrected, without reflecting, or taking notice of the fault of the Profeſſor, and ſome hundred others of that work, tho I could not poſſibly avoid naming him on near forty other ſuch occaſions, in my explication of thoſe Tables, publiſhed not long ſince in *Engliſh*, of which and the reſt perhaps more hereafter.

The Trunk of this Vein is very ill expreſt in the xxxth Table of *Kerckringius*'s Anatomical Obſervations, as will appear by comparing it with thoſe here. However, ſome later writers of Anatomy have been contented to borrow it, without obſerving the fault.

The Left Auricle of the Heart (*vid.* Fig. I. II.) in Humane Bodies being much leſs than the Right, it was neceſſary that the part of this Vein next the Baſis of the Heart ſhould be very large; (*ib.* A A B) leſt the ſudden ſtrong motion of the *Syſtole* ſhould cauſe the Refluent blood to recoil in the branches of this vein (*ib.* D D E E) and prevent a ready ſupply in the ſucceeding *Diaſtole* of the Heart. But the weight of ſo much Blood lying in the trunk of this Veſſel (*ib.* A A. B) does effectually prevent its retroceſſion in the lateral branches within the Lungs; (*ib.* DD. EE.) and the more, becauſe the Orifices of thoſe branches (*ib.* DD.) are not diametrically oppoſite (at A A. Fig. *ib.*) to the mouth of the Veſſel on the Baſis of the Heart (*ib.* B) its lateral branches making Acute angles with the Trunk, as repreſented Fig. I. II. *Epi-*

Fig. III.

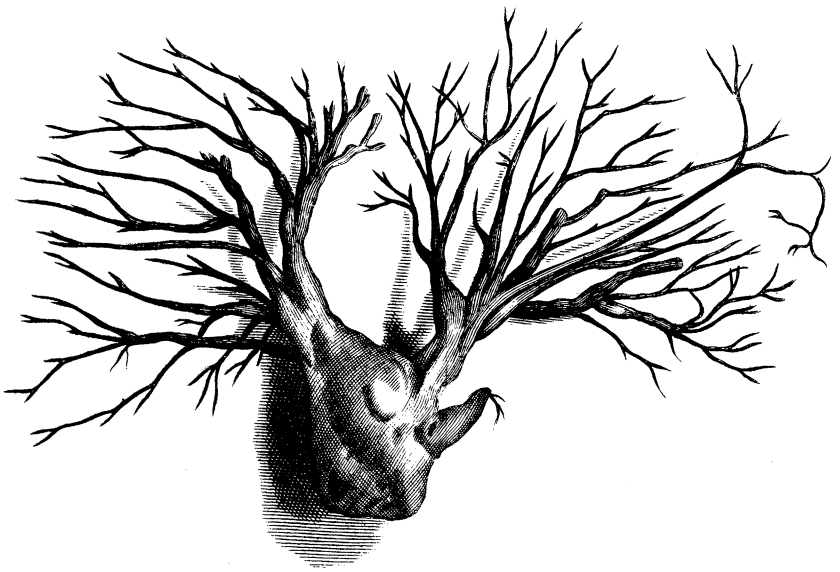

Fig. II.

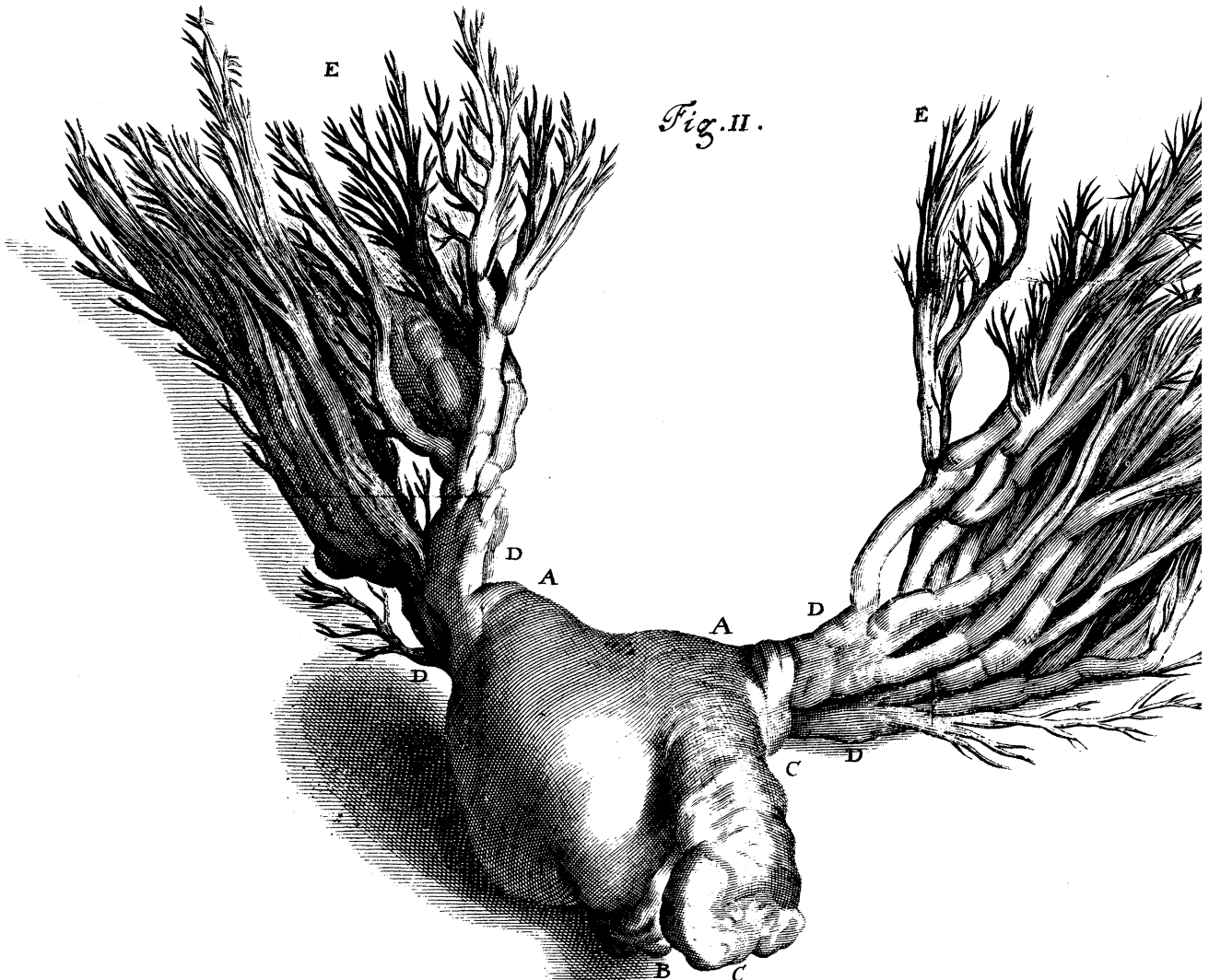


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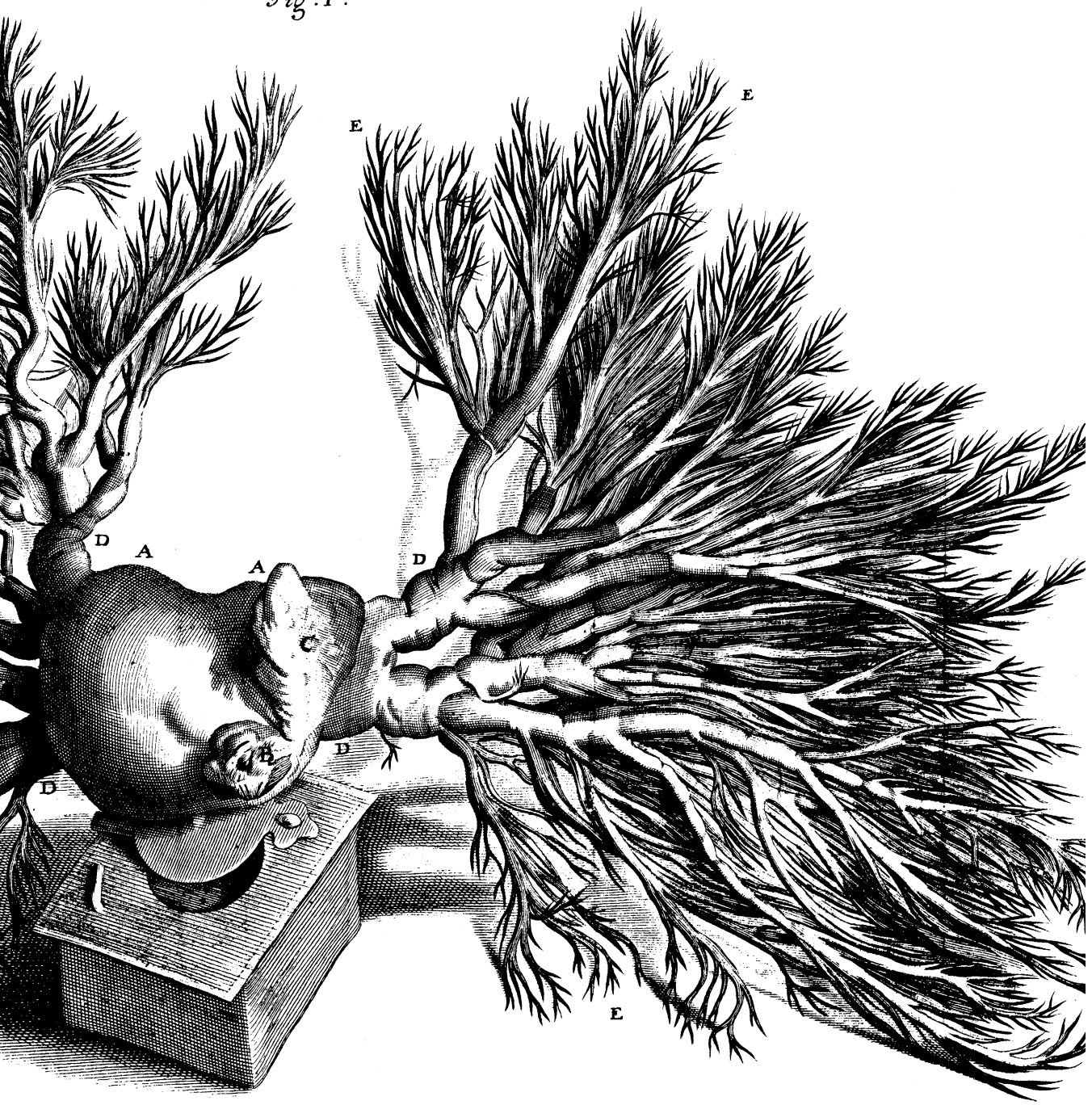
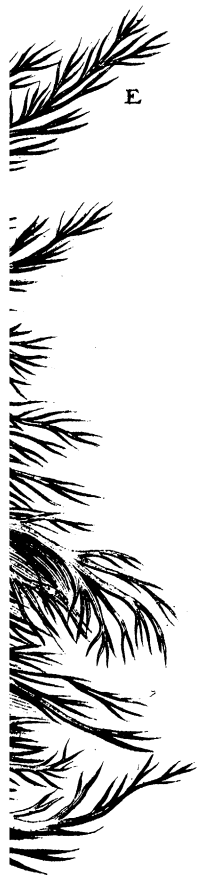
Fig. I.

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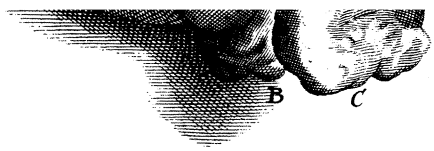
B
C

M: V. Gucht S.

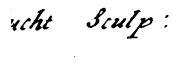

Fig. III.

Fig. II.

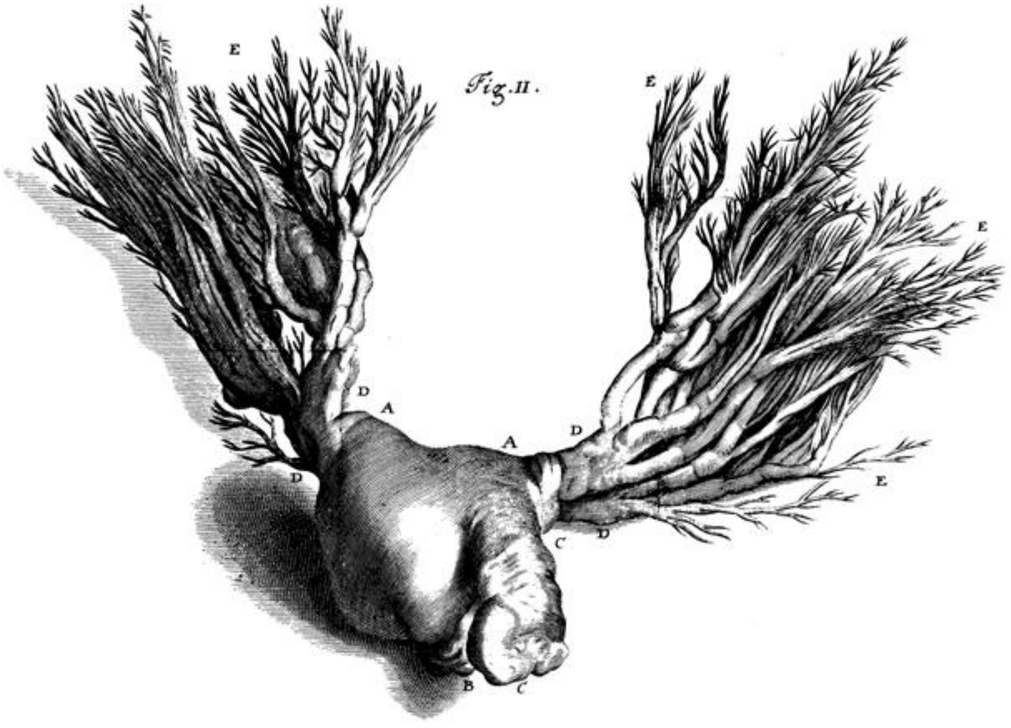

Fig. I.

M: V. Gucht Sculp: